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BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH



# ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health of the Borough

FOR THE YEAR

1956

BY

D. J. N. McNAB, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

F. LE V. FRIEND, S.R.N., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING  
SUPERINTENDENT

SCHOOL OF HYGIENE  
22 DEC 1963  
TROPICAL



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SUPERINTENDENT

## **HEALTH AND HIGHWAYS COMMITTEE, 1956**

Councillor W. E. Morgan (Chairman).

His Worship the Mayor (Councillor K. L. Smith)

Alderman K. H. Ashcroft.

Councillor I. E. Baker.

Councillor J. Jennings.

Councillor P. G. G. King.

Councillor Barrington Myers.

Councillor J. W. Richardson.

Councillor Mrs. I. A. Stevenson.

Councillor A. E. Toombs.

Councillor J. Vaughan.

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## **PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

### **Medical Officer of Health:**

D. J. N. McNab. M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

(Also Medical Officer of Health of the Rural District of Ringwood and Fordingbridge, and an Assistant County Medical Officer for the County of Hampshire.)

### **Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:**

F. Le V. Friend, S.R.N., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

### **Additional Public Health Inspectors:**

D. J. Cartridge, Cert.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.

A. F. Saunders, Cert.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.

**BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH**

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**REPORT**  
**OF THE**  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**  
**FOR THE YEAR**  
**1956**

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS  
of the BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH.

I submit for your information and consideration my tenth Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of your Borough.

As an integral part of this Report there follows the Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector on those sections of the work of the Health Department, with which he is specially concerned.

**NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS:**

The Borough of Christchurch lies on the coast in the south-west corner of Hampshire at the confluence of the rivers Avon and Stour. It is built on a subsoil of gravel and sand and by its situation is blessed with a pleasantly equable climate. It is an ancient town which in recent years has grown with astonishing rapidity, largely owing to the progress of the aircraft industry in the area, but also on account of the attractions which it offers to those seeking a pleasant place to live on retirement. The combination of ancient town and rapid growth, together with our contiguous neighbour Bournemouth, has created a traffic problem of formidable proportions, frustrating to resident and visitor alike.

In addition to the aircraft industry there are two government establishments and a very varied selection of light industry. There is no industrial smoke problem.

Unemployment is at a low level.

**RAINFALL FOR 1956:**

		<i>ins.</i>			<i>ins.</i>
January	...	4.30	July	...	2.17
February	...	0.15	August	...	2.76
March	...	0.72	September	...	4.53
April	...	1.51	October	...	1.50
May	...	0.49	November	...	0.75
June	...	1.75	December	...	5.52

**Total: 26.15 inches.**

**GENERAL STATISTICS:**

**Area:** 4,813 acres (Census 1951).  
**Population:** Registrar-General's estimate for mid-year 1956: 23,140.  
**Number of inhabited houses:**7,490.  
**Rateable value, 31.3.56:** £208,367.  
**Sum represented by a penny rate:** £795 2s. 10d.

**VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1956** (as supplied by the Registrar-General):

					<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
<b>Live Births:</b>							
Total	...	...	...	...	310	170	140
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	291	156	135
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	19	14	5

<b>Still Births:</b>							
Total	...	...	...	...	5	2	3
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	4	2	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	—	1

<b>Deaths:</b>							
Total	...	...	...	...	307	153	154

<b>Infant Mortality:</b>							
<i>(Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age)</i>							
Total	...	...	...	...	7	4	3
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	7	4	3
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—

<i>(Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age)</i>							
Total	...	...	...	...	6	3	3
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	6	3	3
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—

<b>Maternal Mortality:</b>							
Deaths from puerperal causes					1	—	1

# COMPARATIVE VITAL STATISTICS:

	<i>Borough of Christchurch</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
<b>Birth Rate</b> (Comparability Factor 1.03):		
per 1,000 estimated population ...	13.4	15.7
after application of comparability factor	13.8	—
<b>Still Birth Rate:</b>		
per 1,000 estimated population ...	0.22	0.37
per 1,000 total (live and still births) ...	15.9	23.0
<b>Death Rate</b> (Comparability Factor 0.78):		
per 1,000 estimated population ...	13.3	11.7
after application of comparability factor	10.3	—
<b>Infant Mortality Rate</b> (Under 1 year of age):		
All causes per 1,000 live births ...	22.6	23.8
<b>Neo-Natal Mortality Rate</b> (Under 4 weeks age):		
All causes per 1,000 live births ...	19.3	16.9
<b>Illegitimacy Rate:</b>		
Per 1,000 live births ...	61.3	46.0
<b>Maternal Mortality Rate:</b>		
per 1,000 total (live and still births) ... (one death only)	3.17	0.56
<b>Special Causes:</b>		
Death rate per 1,000 population —		
Whooping cough ...	—	0.00
Diphtheria ...	—	0.00
Influenza ...	0.43	0.06
Tuberculosis ...	0.13	0.12
Acute poliomyelitis ...	—	0.00
Pneumonia ...	0.52	0.53
Cancer (lung and bronchus) ...	0.35	0.41
(all causes) ...	2.42	2.07

Year	Popula- tion	Borough of Christchurch			England and Wales		
		I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.	I.M.R.	B.R.	D.R.
1929	8,728	49.0	18.6	11.1	74	16.3	13.4
1932	11,250	62.5	17.0	11.3	65	15.3	12.0
1936	13,080	53.1	15.8	12.2	59	14.8	12.1
1940	15,330	24.7	13.1	12.8	55	14.6	14.3
1944	14,810	30.0	22.3	14.2	46	17.6	11.6
1948	19,190	16.0	16.1	11.25	34	17.9	10.8
1952	21,290	21.9	14.9	11.03	27.6	15.3	11.3
1953	21,510	15.8	14.7	16.3	26.8	15.5	11.4
1954	22,230	26.1	13.8	11.7	25.5	15.2	11.3
1955	22,620	27.6	12.8	13.3	24.9	15.0	11.7
1956	23,140	22.6	13.4	13.3	23.8	15.7	11.7



## Causes of Death:

	Males	Females
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..	3	1
2. Tuberculosis, other ... ..	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease ... ..	—	—
4. Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
5. Whooping cough ... ..	—	—
6. Meningococcal infection ... ..	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis ... ..	—	—
8. Measles ... ..	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	4	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	7	1
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..	—	6
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..	—	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	19	17
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ... ..	—	1
16. Diabetes ... ..	—	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	13	30
18. Coronary disease, angina ... ..	37	17
19. Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	2	2
20. Other heart disease ... ..	24	24
21. Other circulatory disease ... ..	8	9
22. Influenza ... ..	4	6
23. Pneumonia ... ..	4	8
24. Bronchitis ... ..	5	6
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	3	—
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	4	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	—	—
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	—	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ... ..	1	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..	—	1
31. Congenital malformations ... ..	—	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	13	15
33. Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	—	—
34. All other accidents ... ..	1	2
35. Suicide ... ..	1	2
36. Homicide and operations of war ... ..	—	—
TOTAL (all causes)	153	154

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASE:

The incidence of infectious disease throughout the year was remarkably low.

The most interesting event was an outbreak of Sonne Dysentery, largely confined to the Somerford housing estate and

having, as the focus of infection, Somerford Primary School. The number of cases notified was probably only a fraction of those that occurred since in many cases the illness was mild and transitory. A considerable number of cases occurred, almost simultaneously, at the onset, and immediately the connection with the school was realised the cooperation of the Headmaster and staff was sought in stepping up personal hygienic measures among the pupils, notably hand washing. These were so successful that few if any fresh cases occurred through the school after the early days and the outbreak gradually subsided. All known cases were visited in their homes and supervised until they could be declared free of infection. It is felt that the Headmaster and staff of the school are to be congratulated for their part in cutting short an outbreak which has great potentialities for spread.

The national incidence of poliomyelitis was comparatively low during the year and the fact that the summer was a poor one may not be without significance. Two cases were notified in the district, both before the normal epidemic season. Both were young adults; in one the diagnosis was never fully confirmed and she recovered without paresis; the other contracted his infection abroad and also made a good recovery.

In February there was a widespread outbreak of a mild influenza type illness which affected many people throughout the district. It appeared to take two forms, in one the symptoms were predominantly respiratory, and in the other gastro-intestinal. The duration of the illness varied from a few days to about three weeks and all who were affected appeared to make uneventful recoveries.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Number noti- fied</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 population</i>	
		<i>Borough of Christ- church</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
Scarlet Fever ... ..	9	0.39	0.74
Whooping Cough ... ..	13	0.56	2.07
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—	0.00
Erysipelas ... ..	4	0.17	0.09
Measles ... ..	17	0.73	3.59
Pneumonia ... ..	7	0.30	0.57
Poliomyelitis (paralytic) ...	2	0.09	0.04
(non-paralytic) ... ..	—	—	0.03
Meningococcal infection ...	1	0.04	0.03
Food Poisoning ... ..	2	0.09	0.25
Dysentery ... ..	28	1.21	1.09
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	1	0.04	0.26

## TUBERCULOSIS:

The Chest Clinic continues to be held at the County Council Health Centre in Millhams Street, though there is word that it may eventually be transferred to accommodation to be adapted for it in Christchurch Hospital. The Chest Physician is Dr. Stuart Robertson, who is also Director of the Bournemouth Mass Radiography Unit, and the clinic serves not only the Borough of Christchurch but also the Borough of Lymington, most of the Rural District of Ringwood and Fordingbridge, and a small part of the New Forest Rural District.

Last year I remarked on the satisfactorily small number of new cases notified, but this year new notifications are higher than for many years. This unfortunate state of affairs is however not due to an increase in indigenous infection but to a survey of "casuals" at the Bournemouth Reception Centre which is in Christchurch Hospital. Few of these men have any permanent address and we therefore find ourselves saddled with notifications which we are unable to transfer to their home areas as is done in other cases of Tuberculosis. Some of the cases discovered have accepted sanatorium treatment, but others have moved on and cannot readily be traced. Such men obviously represent a potential source of infection which it is virtually impossible to control.

Number of cases of tuberculosis on the Register at 31.12.56: 208.

<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
106	74	12	16

### New Cases and Mortality 1932-1956:

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
1932	1	7	—	3	2	3	—	—
1936	4	4	2	1	1	—	2	—
1940	10	1	2	4	5	1	—	—
1944	5	2	2	2	1	2	—	—
1948	15	10	1	4	2	1	—	1
1952	12	7	—	1	1	1	1	—
1953	11	8	1	—	4	—	—	—
1954	3	2	1	—	—	1	1	—
1955	3	3	—	2	—	1	—	—
1956	25	7	1	—	3	1	—	—

## MASS RADIOGRAPHY:

The Bournemouth Mass Radiography Unit visited the Borough for a fortnight in February. Equipped with its new caravan reception room and office it was independent of halls and was able to be sited in different parts of the town. It did in fact visit Fairmile, two positions at Somerford, and it had a prominent site in the High Street for a week. It was unfortunate that snow interfered with attendances in the final week. None the less 2,803 persons were X-rayed on this occasion and a further 520 senior pupils from the Twynham County Secondary School were X-rayed later in the year. The details of the examinations given below have been kindly supplied by the Director, Dr. Stuart Robertson.

### Statistics

TABLE I

Number examined	...	...	...	...	3323
Recalled for large film examination	...	...	...	...	67 (2.01%)
Recalled for clinical examination	...	...	...	...	22 (0.66%)
Referred to Chest Clinic	...	...	...	...	19 (0.57%)
(a) probably tuberculous	...	...	...	...	15 (0.45%)
(b) probably non-tuberculous	...	...	...	...	4 (0.12%)
Referred to doctor or hospital	...	...	...	...	2 (0.06%)

TABLE II (a)

Number referred to the appropriate Chest Clinic as probably tuberculous: 15.

	Male	Female	Total
1. No. of cases diagnosed as active pulmonary tuberculosis			
(a) Unilateral disease	—	1	1
(b) Bilateral disease	—	—	—
2. Tuberculosis, occasional supervision only	4	5	9
3. Classified as inactive tuberculosis, no further action considered necessary	4	1	5
	8	7	15

TABLE II (b)

*Non-tuberculous cases —*

	Referred to Chest Clinic	...	...	4		
	Referred to Doctor or Hospital	...	...	2		
			<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	
1.	Cardiovascular lesions	...	...	—	1	1
2.	Non-tuberculous conditions	...	...	3	2	5
				<hr/>		
				3	3	6

## TUBERCULOSIS — CARE AND AFTER CARE:

The Christchurch, Lymington and District T.B. Care Committee, of which the Mayor is a joint President, continues to extend its valuable and purely voluntary activities in the support and encouragement of needy tuberculous patients. The Committee largely depends on the income derived from the sale of N.A.P.T. Christmas Seals, and this has been maintained in spite of competition from other voluntary associations now using this form of appeal. The number of cases assisted rose to 54 and nearly £400 was expended. Lady Manners continues as Chairman, with Major F. A. L. Lawrence as Hon. Secretary, and Lt.-Col. M. E. Morgan as Hon. Treasurer.

## DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION:

The County Council further extended the scheme for immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough to include immunisation against Tetanus, in July. The majority of children in the area immunised for the first time are now receiving "Triple Antigen," i.e. a material containing protective substances against all three diseases.

The improved diphtheria immunisation rate of the previous year has been maintained. During the year 288 children were immunised for the first time, of whom 238 were under the age of five, and 50 were over five. 424 children previously immunised received refresher doses. The proportion of children born within the previous twelve months who were immunised was 55%.

The following table sets out the number of children in the Borough who have been immunised against diphtheria. Treatment carried out prior to 1946 is not included since records at that time were kept in an incomplete form. In recent years the majority of primary immunisations have also included immunisation against whooping cough.

*Number of children in the District on 31st December, 1956, who have completed a course of diphtheria immunisation at any time between 1st January, 1942 and 31st December, 1956:*

<i>Age on 31.12.56 (i.e. born in year)</i>	<i>Under 1 1956</i>	<i>1-4 1952-55</i>	<i>5-9 1947-51</i>	<i>10-14 1942-46</i>	<i>Under 15 Total</i>
A. Number of children who have completed course (primary or booster) in the period 1952-1956.	52	793	1133	929	2907
B. Number of children who have completed course (primary or booster) in the period 1942-1951.	—	—	377	585	962



## **SMALLPOX VACCINATION:**

There was some improvement in the infant vaccination figures over the previous year which might be accounted for in part by the introduction, towards the end of 1955, of infant vaccination at Child Welfare Centres. 63.2% of babies under one year were vaccinated during 1956 as compared with 53.8% in 1955. Though smallpox now seldom occurs in this country, the speed of modern transport render its introduction from the endemic centres of the world an ever present possibility. If then vaccination of large numbers of persons is called for, those vaccinated in infancy are safer and are much less inconvenienced by re-vaccination than the never-vaccinated.

## **POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION:**

In January the Minister of Health announced that a scheme for vaccination against poliomyelitis was to be introduced in this country. Registration of children between the ages of two and nine was invited, lists closing at the end of March. The general response was less than might have been expected, and in this area 567 children were registered, about 20% of the eligibles. Less vaccine became available than had been anticipated and only 50 of those registered here were inoculated during the year.

## **AMBULANCE SERVICES:**

The Ambulance Service in the area is run by the County Council from a Main Station at "Hillcroft," New Street, Lymington. There is a sub-station at Christchurch, and further sub-stations at Ringwood and New Milton, but in order that calls can be properly correlated, all requests for transport have to be made to the Main Station—Telephone Number Lymington 2331.

## **HOME HELP SERVICE:**

The Home Help Service is also provided by the County Council and is under the local administration of the District Health Sub-Committee.

The Divisional Organiser is Miss P. M. Stevens, Druitt Buildings, Christchurch. Telephone: Christchurch 900.

## **NURSING SERVICES:**

The District Nursing and Midwifery Service is provided by the County Council and is administered locally by a District Health Sub-Committee.

Details of Nurses and their areas:—

<i>District served</i>	<i>Name and address of Nurse</i>	<i>Service</i>
CHRISTCHURCH	Mrs. G. H. Cox, Valetta, Walcott Avenue, Christchurch. Tel. Christchurch 1160.	Midwife
	Mrs. Gutheridge, 36, Walcott Avenue, Christchurch. Tel. Christchurch 729.	District Nurse Midwife
	Mrs. M. B. Guest, 118, River Way. Christchurch. Tel. Christchurch 1678.	District Nurse
	Mrs. K. Ella, 13, Edward Road, Christchurch. Tel. Christchurch 2225.	District Nurse
SOMERFORD	Miss M. Ellwood, 2, Rothesay Drive, Highcliffe. Tel. Highcliffe 3426.	Midwife
MUDEFORD	Miss E. Mitchell, 17, Stanpit, Christchurch. Tel. Christchurch 1204.	District Nurse Midwife
Purewell		
Burton		
Winkton Common.		
HIGHCLIFFE	Mrs. I. Sherwood, Brackenridge, Bracken Way, Highcliffe. Tel. Highcliffe 3282.	District Nurse Midwife
Beckley		

## HEALTH VISITORS:

CHRISTCHURCH, West of Purewell Cross	Mrs. M. A. Tate, 3, Warren Edge Road, Southbourne. Tel.: Southbourne 47407.
MUDEFORD AND PART SOMERFORD	Miss M. Morris, 31, Twynham Road, Southbourne. Tel.: Southbourne 47209.
HIGHCLIFFE AND PART SOMERFORD	Mrs. P. M. Mogridge, "Oakhanger," Thorney Hill, Nr. Christchurch. Tel.: Bransgore 464.

## WATER:

Christchurch is supplied with water by the West Hampshire Water Company whose works are situated within the Borough. The company, in addition, supplies part of Bournemouth, the whole of the Rural District of Ringwood and Fordingbridge, part of the New Forest Rural District and part of the Borough of Lymington. Raw water in bulk is also pumped to the oil refinery at Fawley.

The raw water is drawn from the River Avon at Christchurch and treated by slow sand filtration and super chlorination. In addition the company has developed a new source of supply from deep boreholes in the chalk at Hale Park, some 16 miles north of Christchurch near the Wiltshire border. This supply will serve Ringwood and Fordingbridge Rural District and may, at times of need, supplement the supply in Christchurch.

Raw and treated waters are examined daily at the Company's own water testing laboratory which is in charge of a qualified chemist and bacteriologist. In addition periodic independent samples are sent to an outside laboratory.

The supply of water to the consumer is constant, of moderate hardness, free from plumbo solvent action, and entirely free from metals.

The Company's records show 7,363 separately assessed domestic dwellings to be supplied from their mains in Christchurch. No standpipes are in use.

A typical result of an examination of the treated water is shown below:—

### THE COUNTIES PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORIES

ANALYSIS OF A SAMPLE OF WATER received on 11.7.56 from  
WEST HAMPSHIRE WATER COMPANY.

#### *Chemical Results in parts per million:*

Appearance: Clear and bright.

Turbidity: Nil.

Colour: 10.

Odour: Nil.

pH: 7.9.

Free Carbon Dioxide: 3.

Electric Conductivity: 380.

Total Solids: 255.

Chlorine present as Chloride: 17.

Alkalinity as Calcium  
Carbonate: 180.

Hardness—Total: 205. Carbonate 180. Non-Carbonate: 25.

Nitrate Nitrogen: 1.8.

Nitrite Nitrogen: less than 0.01.

Ammoniacal Nitrogen: 0.031.

Oxygen absorbed: 0.85.

Albuminoid Nitrogen: 0.036.

Residual Chlorine: 0.07.

Metals—Iron: less than 0.03, other metals absent.



### *Bacteriological Results :*

Number of Colonies developing on Agar			
	1 day at 37°C. 1 per ml.	2 days at 37°C. 1 per ml.	3 days at 20°C. 2 per ml.
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes reaction	<i>Present in</i> - ml.	<i>Absent from</i> 100 ml.	<i>Probable No.</i> 0 per 100 ml.
Bact. coli. (type 1)	- ml.	100 ml.	0 per 100 ml.
Cl. welchii reaction	- ml.	100 ml.	

This sample is clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron. The water is moderately hard in character and contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. Its organic quality and bacterial purity are of a high standard.

These are satisfactory results, indicative of a water which is pure and wholesome in character and suitable for drinking and domestic purposes.

*Sgd.* ROY C. HOATHER.

25th July, 1956.

### **SEWERAGE:**

The scheme for the new treatment works in Stony Lane is under preparation by your consultants and will be submitted to the Ministry shortly. It is anticipated that final approval and loan sanction will be given during 1957, and that work may commence in 1958. Completion cannot take place until, at the earliest, 1960.

In the meantime the maximum efficiency is being coaxed out of our present overloaded system. In dry weather difficulties are seldom experienced, except as a result of mechanical breakdown, but in times of rain there is an ever present danger of sewage overflowing into water-courses, yards and even houses. Some 350 new houses came on to the system during the year and the indications are that the rate of building may not substantially decline for some years. No improvement can therefore be anticipated in existing trouble spots until the new scheme is in operation.

The town's sewage continues to be discharged into one of Bournemouth's outfalls owing to the destruction of our own.

### **LABORATORY FACILITIES:**

The bacteriological examination of specimens of epidemiological interest from the area is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Boscombe, which is under the direction of Dr. G. J. G.

King. Dr. King is also available to act as an adviser in the control of infections where bacteriology might assist, and a very happy state of co-operation exists between us.

The following specimens emanating from this area were examined at the Laboratory during the year. The details have been kindly supplied by the Director.

Nose and throat	...	17
Sputa	... ..	8
Faeces and Urine	...	305
Water	... ..	2
Milk	... ..	40
Ice cream	...	242
Miscellaneous	...	91
TOTAL		<hr/> 705 <hr/>

### **FOOD POISONING:**

Two cases of food poisoning were reported during the year, but in each instance the patient was from outside the area and was notified from Christchurch Hospital where the condition had been diagnosed.

### **FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES:**

In this town we have always prided ourselves on the state of the food premises and the conscientiousness of our food purveyors. The Food Hygiene Regulations 1955, which came into force on 1st January, 1956, laid down, among other things, requirements in respect of the cleanliness of food premises and stalls, hygienic food handling, the cleanliness of food handlers, construction of food premises, facilities for hand washing, the temperatures at which certain foods are to be maintained and the control of smoking in relation to open food. Obviously the new Regulations entail much additional work by your inspectors and your attention is particularly drawn to the details set out in the later part of this report. Suffice it to say now that no serious difficulties have been encountered in the enforcement of the Regulations and that the same spirit of co-operation has been shown by food traders which has prevailed in the past.

### **SCHOOLS:**

The pressure of overcrowding in the primary schools has been relieved to quite a large extent with the exception of the Somerford and Highcliffe schools. Somerford had 561 pupils at the end of the year, in a school built for 320, and was dependent on the

use of outlying classrooms at Somerford Secondary School and at Sandhills. Somerford Infant School, to be completed in 1957, will be urgently needed to secure the release of classrooms in Somerford Secondary School now required for the progressive intakes of eleven-year-olds.

The old Highcliffe School had 322 pupils at the end of the year and still there is no word of a site for the new school which is so badly needed in this the most rapidly growing part of the town. Considerable numbers of Highcliffe children attend schools at Mudeford, Christchurch, Hinton and New Milton owing to the shortage of room in the old school.

School meals are available at all schools, cooked in kitchens on the school premises and in all but one instance served in adjoining dining halls, mostly in two sessions. It remains a matter for regret that in most cases it is necessary also to use the dining halls as classrooms. Cooks and food handlers are given special instruction in hygienic food practices.

## CHILD WELFARE CLINICS:

The County Council operates three child welfare centres in the Borough. All are run by voluntary committees and staffed by an Assistant County Medical Officer and the Area Health Visitor. In addition to the normal advice on infant feeding and management, vaccination against smallpox and immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough, and tenanus, is now available at all centres.

I would reiterate the Borough's indebtedness to the members of the voluntary committees. Great difficulty is however being experienced in obtaining volunteers to replace those who give up the work through old age or more pressing commitments.

<i>Child Welfare Centres:</i>	<i>Place</i>	<i>Time</i>
Christchurch	County Council Health Centre, Millhams Street.	Every Tuesday 10 a m. and 2 p.m.
Somerford.	St. Mary's Church Hall.	First and Third Wednesdays in month at 2.30 p.m.
Highcliffe.	St. Mark's Hall.	Third Friday in month at 2.30 p.m.

## HOUSING:

The number of private houses built during the year showed a further increase to 280, as against 247 in the previous year. The number of council houses completed fell to 77.

In addition there were completed 20 units of accommodation for aged persons in a block of enlightened design with communal facilities and a resident warden.

Post-war achievements in housing in the Borough are notable. Council houses erected since the war:—

Permanent	...	...	1193
Temporary	...	...	100

Private enterprise houses erected since the war: 1388.

Private construction is almost without exception erected for sale and the Council therefore must needs provide for those unable to purchase.

The details relating to housing allocation and the current waiting list have been kindly supplied by Mr. A. G. Head, Housing Officer, and they show the extent to which new rented accommodation is desired, if not required. The differential rent scheme has been designed to encourage the better paid to buy or build for themselves rather than seek Council housing.

The position at Holmsley remains difficult. Here there are appreciable numbers of families who would present a serious problem to any housing authority, but they cannot continue to inhabit indefinitely the sub-standard accommodation in which they now live. Indeed the Ministry of Housing and Local Government has decreed that the huts shall be demolished at the end of 1958 and has refused to consent to the construction of houses of modified design. The Health Visitors have always given special attention to such families and the County Welfare Department has made serious efforts towards rehabilitation. This work is to be extended by the appointment of Social Workers with special responsibilities in this connection.

Number of families housed during the year:—

In permanent accommodation	...	...	...	79
In temporary accommodation at Holmsley	...	...	...	23
In requisitioned premises	...	...	...	1
Total				103

At the end of the year 69 families were temporarily housed at Holmsley and comprised the following:—

<i>No. in family</i>	<i>No. of families</i>	<i>Total personnel</i>
1	2	2
2	5	10
3	21	63
4	17	68
5	11	55
6	6	36
7	3	21
8	2	16
9	—	—
10	2	20
<hr/>		<hr/>
69		291
<hr/>		<hr/>



There were 243 applicants on the general list, comprised as follows:—

<i>No. in family</i>	<i>No. of families</i>	<i>Total personnel</i>
1	6	6
2	96	192
3	97	291
4	32	128
5	9	45
6	2	12
7	—	—
8	1	8
	<hr/> 243 <hr/>	<hr/> 682 <hr/>

There were also 11 applicants on the list for an Old Person's Dwelling, and 17 families housed in requisitioned premises at the end of the year.

**SUMMARY :**

	<i>Year ended December</i>		
	1951	1955	1956
Applicants on general list ...	916	338	254
Families at Holmsley ... ..	193	68	69
Families in requisitioned premises	89	32	17
	<hr/> 1198 <hr/>	<hr/> 438 <hr/>	<hr/> 340 <hr/>

## **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948, SECTION 47:**

Two men were dealt with under the above Act.

One was a man suffering from an advanced cancer of the face who refused medical attention and who was living under conditions of squalor in a lodging house. He died shortly after admission to hospital.

The other was a tramp who for many years had slept on a heap of rags in a wood on the outskirts of the Borough. During a cold spell in February both his feet became badly frostbitten. He refused to enter hospital and in view of his living conditions it was reasonable and humane to use the compulsory powers provided by the act to secure his admission to hospital. He subsequently proved to be mentally deranged and had to be certified.

## GENERAL REMARKS:

The health of the Borough has been satisfactory throughout the year.

The general incidence of infectious disease was remarkably low.

The estimated population increased by 520, almost entirely by immigration.

The Birth Rate showed a small increase over the previous year's record low figure.

The Infant Mortality Rate declined.

The Death Rate was unchanged from the previous year.

New housing construction has continued unabated.

Numbers at Holmsley have not declined and the rehousing of some of the families is fraught with difficulty.

Sewage disposal has presented the usual difficulties.

In conclusion, I wish again to thank the Mayor and Members of the Council for their unfailing interest, my colleagues in other departments for their advice and assistance, and in particular the Chief Public Health Inspector and his staff for their energy and efficiency.

D. J. N. McNAB,  
Medical Officer of Health.

July 1957.

**BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**OF THE**  
**CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**  
**AND**  
**CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR**  
**1956**

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS  
of the BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my sixteenth Annual Report covering the work of the department during the year 1956.

Apart from their routine duties, your inspectors have given special attention to the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations and to the reconditioning of sub-standard properties under the Housing Acts, 1936 to 1954.

Recruiting of staff for refuse collection is still somewhat of a problem. Nevertheless, a weekly collection was maintained throughout the year.

Despite the abnormally wet conditions experienced over a long period, sickness among the refuse collectors was again low, the average per head being 5.9 days.

There has been a further slight increase in the population, the figure at 30th June, 1956. being 23,140. The previous year's figure was 22,620.

Development has again been confined to the Highcliffe and Mudeford areas, a total of 280 properties having been erected. In addition 77 houses were erected by the Council.

There has been no change in the number of inspectorial and clerical staff.

## HOUSING — REPAIRS:

Without doubt, this is the most difficult problem facing the department. Difficult, not only because of the low rents, but also because builders are not keen to undertake this class of work. Some idea of the problem will be apparent from the following information extracted from the registers maintained in the department. Of 120 houses inspected in 1955, the highest rent is 35s. 0d. and the lowest 3s. 6d. per week. The average for all the properties being 12s. 10d., rates being inclusive in all but one case.

It will be seen that owners of this class of property, far from being rapacious, are faced with the problem of maintaining their property out of totally inadequate rents. Despite these difficulties, your inspectors had work — varying from minor repairs to major overhauls — carried out to 61 properties during the year. 52 of these were dealt with informally.

Three properties were demolished and a closing order made on part of a house.

There were no applications for Certificates of Disrepair.



# SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES:

The Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, came into operation on 1st January, 1956. The enforcement of these regulations has added not inconsiderably to the work of your Inspectors whose responsibility it is to ensure that the cleanliness of personnel and premises, and the methods of storage and handling of food are in accordance with the regulations.

The sphere of control has been greatly enlarged, for the regulations deal not only with shops but also with undertakings at Canteens, Clubs, Schools, Hospitals and the like.

The coming into operation of these regulations has necessitated a complete re-examination of the standard of the premises in the area. Each of the 286 food premises has had to be inspected and the degree by which the standard of the premises falls short of the requirements of the regulations, noted, your inspectors having made a total of 998 visits for this purpose.

We are fortunate in that the majority of the food shops in the borough were brought up to the standard required to become members of the Clean Food Guild, this standard being closely allied to that laid down in the new regulations.

As was to be expected, a number of premises do not conform in all respects and will have to be brought into line. This is receiving attention and it is hoped to have all premises brought up to standard by the end of the year. In the course of their visits to hotels, restaurants and shops, your inspectors avail themselves of the opportunity to advise persons handling food on the importance of maintaining a high standard of hygiene, not only in relation to the storage and handling of food, but in respect of their own person, with particular reference to the cleanliness of hands and clothing. Their attention is also drawn to the requirements of Section 9 of the regulations which, inter alia, prohibits the use of tobacco while handling open food or in a room in which there is open food. This is not an easy matter to control. The fact that no action has had to be taken does not necessarily signify compliance with the regulations. Your inspectors do their utmost to ensure that this rule is obeyed.

Apart from hotels and clubs, there are 227 food premises in the borough, made up as follows:—

Grocer	...	...	...	...	67
Greengrocer and Fruiterer	...	...	...	...	17
Baker and Confectioner	...	...	...	...	10
Sweets	...	...	...	...	28
Fishmonger and Fryer	...	...	...	...	11
Butcher	...	...	...	...	18
Cafe and Restaurant	...	...	...	...	40
Works and School Canteens	...	...	...	...	16
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	20

There are 184 premises registered under section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, as follows:—

126 are registered for the sale of ice cream.

5 are registered for the manufacture and sale of ice cream.

1 is registered for the storage of ice cream.

40 are registered for the preparation of sausages and pickled meats.

1 is registered for the manufacture of sausages and cooked and preserved meats.

11 are registered for the preparation of fish by any process of cooking.

Because of a change in the nature of the business. ice cream is no longer sold from 15 of the 126 premises registered, and the number of effective registrations is 111.

## MILK SUPPLY:

For some years, part of the milk consumed in the area has been pasteurised and bottled at an establishment within the borough. Early in the year, the business was sold to a firm in Bournemouth, and the premises are no longer used for the purpose of treating milk. All milk consumed in the area is now bottled at establishments outside the borough.

40 samples of milk were taken during the year. 3 samples of Tuberculin Tested milk and 1 of Pasteurised milk failed to pass the test.

Details of the number and type of licences in force under the Milk Special Designation (Raw Milk) and (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, and of dairies and persons registered under the Milk Regulations, are as follows:—

Number of distributors of milk	...	...	...	41
Number of dairies on register	...	...	...	4
Dealers licensed to use the designation Tuberculin Tested milk	...	...	...	15
Dealers licensed to use the designation Pasteurised milk	...	...	...	38
Dealers licensed to use the designation Sterilised milk	...	...	...	4
Dealers (Pasteurisers) licensed to use the designation Pasteurised milk	...	...	...	1
Supplementary licences issued for Tuberculin Tested milk	...	...	...	6
Supplementary licences issued for Pasteurised milk	...	...	...	7
Supplementary licences issued for Sterilised milk	...	...	...	1

## ICE CREAM:

I can add but little to what has been said about this product in previous reports except, perhaps, to stress the much greater care that is obviously being given to this article of diet. This care is reflected in the satisfactory results obtained in all but 5 of the 240 samples submitted to the Public Health Laboratory. The results are an improvement on the previous year when 12 of the 200 samples proved unsatisfactory.

Grading of samples during the year was as follows:—

Grade 1	...	213
Grade 2	...	22
Grade 3	...	2
Grade 4	...	3

## FOODS CONDEMNED:

The following is a list of foods condemned at food shops and food preparing premises during the year. In all cases, the food was voluntarily surrendered, and other than meat which was disposed of to manufacturers of animal feeding stuffs, all was disposed of in the tip.

474 tins Meat, Fruit, Soup and Vegetables.

20 tins Fish.

29 lbs. Liver.

38 tins Milk and Cream.

24 lbs. Cheese.

517 lbs. Beef.

64 lb. Ham.

148 lbs. Pork.

## SAMPLING — FOOD AND DRUGS ACT:

The sampling of food for adulteration is undertaken by the County Council. Their Chief Inspector, Mr. C. O. Perry, has very kindly supplied the following report on samples taken in the borough during the year ended 31st March, 1957.

<i>Article</i>	<i>Number taken</i>	
	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Butter and Other Fats ... ..	3	1
Drugs ... ..	2	—
Milk, Channel Islands ... ..	19	—
Milk ... ..	41	—
Sausage, Meat and Fish Products	5	1
Spirits ... ..	5	—
Other Foods ... ..	7	—
	—	—
	82	2
	—	—

The 19 Channel Islands milk samples proved to contain an average of 4.34% fat and 9.01% non-fatty solids and the 41 milk samples an average of 3.63% fat and 8.81% non-fatty solids.

## UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES:

A sample of dripping was certified to include acidity as oleic acid 2.5%. the analyst observing the acidity of dripping does not usually exceed 1.5%.

A sample of sausage was certified to contain 230 parts per million sulphur dioxide but no declaration with regard to this preservative was given to the purchaser.

The regulations allow the use of sulphur dioxide in sausage meat to the extent of 450 parts per million provided it is duly declared.

The case was dealt with by way of caution.

## DRAINAGE:

As will be seen by reference to Table 1, a great deal of attention has again had to be given to this matter. As in previous years, development has been mainly confined to the Highcliffe and Mudeford districts where comparatively large scale estate development is taking place.

The drainage of properties on these estates presents no problem as sewers have been constructed by the developers.

The same cannot be said of properties erected on odd sites. In a number of cases it has been found necessary to resort to septic tank drainage.

It is to be regretted that in an urbanised area such as this, sewers are not always available and many properties have still to rely on cesspools, septic tanks or bucket latrines.

A recent survey revealed that the number of properties not connected to the sewer and having to rely on one or other of the above forms of sanitation, is as under:—

Draining to septic tanks ...	64
Draining to cesspools ...	52
Bucket latrines ... ..	52

## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING SITES:

There are 12 licensed sites in the borough, all of which are used to capacity during the periods allowed by the respective licences. All sites are provided with water, drainage and modern sanitary conveniences. In some cases, baths are also available. The total permitted number of caravans is 775.

An application to use a site at Mudeford was refused by the Planning Authority. The applicant appealed and a public enquiry was held. The appeal was unsuccessful.

Your inspectors make regular inspections of the sites, all of which are well maintained. No action had to be taken by the department during the year.

As in many other areas where housing is a problem, a number of families, 160 during the year under review, occupied their caravans all the year round. With two exceptions, these vans were on licensed sites.



## **PUBLIC CLEANSING:**

### **(a) Refuse Collection.**

The continued comparatively large scale development results in an increase in the quantity of refuse. The maintenance of a regular weekly collection is at times difficult, particularly during the summer period when members of the staff are on holiday. Apart from shops, factories, camps and beaches, refuse is collected from 8,065 premises, the tonnage this year, including 1,088 tons of ash acquired for the purpose of covering down, being 7,107, an increase of 402 tons over the previous year.

The collection of refuse from business premises varies from one to four collections per week, a charge being levied for all but the first collection.

It was impossible for a number of years to obtain staff for this class of work. The position is now easier, and with the authority of the Committee, I was able to take on extra labour. This extra labour has resulted in a speed up of the work and a substantial decrease in the number of hours and cost of overtime which has fallen from 3,196 in 1955, to 1,904 hours for the present year.

### **(b) Refuse Disposal.**

All refuse is taken to Stanpit Marsh where it is disposed of by controlled tipping, strictly in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health.

The whole of the area approved by the Council for tipping — approximately 21 acres — has been reclaimed. 2.9 acres have been fenced off for use as a depot. 6.9 acres are grassed down and in use as sports fields. A further 9.2 acres have been covered with soil and I hope to be able to put this area under grass in the autumn. There remains an area of some 2 acres for which soil is to be obtained before the work of grassing down can be completed. When this has been done, a total of 18 acres will be available for sports fields or other purposes which the Council may have in mind.

Refuse is now being tipped on that part of the marsh known as Rotten Row Meadows. The available soil on this land varies from 6 in. to 2 ft. 6 in. Bearing in mind the scarcity and high cost of soil, the Council decided that soil from this site should be stripped and stacked for future use. To do this, I was authorised to acquire a bulldozer. This machine was brought into service in June, and apart from other work on the tip, it has been used to strip back and stack soil from an area of approximately 3 acres — sufficient for one year's tipping. This soil will be spread on the surface of the tip when a sufficiently large area has been reclaimed.

It is difficult to imagine a more unsuitable site for the disposal of refuse. Quite apart from the fact that it is fully exposed to all weathers, it is subject to flooding and many times

during the year the whole area is under water to a depth varying from one to three feet. It will be quite impossible to tip refuse on this land during such periods and it is essential that an alternative site should be earmarked for use at such times.

Attention is drawn earlier in this report to the increase in the tonnage of refuse. Despite this increase, the number of loads has dropped from 3,386 in 1955/56 to 3,199 for the present year. This is not due to a change in the nature of refuse but to the larger capacity of the fore and aft tippers acquired in August.

Quite large quantities of materials other than house refuse are brought to the tip for disposal, 2,368 loads of road sweepings, builders' rubble, etc., having been dealt with.

### **(c) Staff.**

Staff employed on the collection and disposal of refuse and salvage is as under:—

Foreman (driving most of the time); 4 drivers; 12 collectors; 2 salvage packers; 1 bulloader driver and 1 tip head attendant.

### **(d) Transport.**

Some of the vehicles have been in constant use for a number of years and have reached the stage where extensive repairs are necessary to bring them up to the required standard. Bearing in mind the continued development in the area and the rather restricted capacity of these old freighters, the committee decided to acquire new vehicles of larger capacity.

Two Shelvoke & Drewry fore and aft tippers were brought into service in August. The extra capacity of these vehicles has resulted in an appreciable reduction in the number of journeys to the disposal point and a consequent reduction in overtime.

Both vehicles are powered by diesel units and their performance has been carefully watched. At the end of the first four months of service, the use of these vehicles, employed in the same districts as those which they replaced, resulted in a combined saving of 389 gallons of fuel, 1,123 miles, and an overall saving of £114 in operating costs, including overtime.

The following vehicles, some of which are kept in reserve, are in use by the department.

2 Shelvoke & Drewry Fore and Aft Tippers.			
1 Shelvoke & Drewry Side Loader ...	6	years	old
1 Dennis Side Loader ...	10	years	old
2 Bedford Side Loaders ...	14	years	old
1 Morris Side Loader ...	17	years	old
1 Bristol Angledozer ...	7	years	old
1 Howard Bulloader ...			New

Servicing is by contract and is carried out regularly. One of the Bedford lorries is to be disposed of.

(e) Costs.

COST STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 1956/57 AS SUBMITTED TO THE  
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

<i>Item</i>	<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Collec- tion</i>	<i>Dis- posal</i>	<i>Totals</i>	<i>Percentage of total gross ex- penditure</i>
	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
		£	£	£	%
	REVENUE A/C				
1	GROSS EXPENDITURE				
	(i) Labour ...	5,949	2,048	7,997	44.11
	(ii) Transport ...	5,672	2,545	8,217	45.32
	(iii) Plant, equipment, land & buildings	626	307	933	5.15
	(iv) Other items ...	—	984	984	5.42
	(v) Total gross ex- penditure ...	12,247	5,884	18,131	100
2	GROSS INCOME ...	314	2,077	2,391	—
3	NET COST ...	11,933	3,807	15,740	—
4	Capital expenditure met from revenue (included above) ...	—	—	—	—
		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
5	UNIT COSTS: Gross cost per ton, labour only ...	16 9	5 0	21 9	
6	Gross cost per ton, transport only ...	16 0	6 2	22 2	
7	Net cost (all expen- diture) per ton ...	33 7	9 3	42 10	
		£	£	£	
8	Net cost per 1,000 population ...	515	164	679	
9	Net cost per 1,000 premises ...	1,480	472	1,952	

## **SALVAGE:**

Despite the fact that a large amount of paper and cardboard is deposited in refuse bins, very substantial quantities are set aside by the householder for collection as salvage. This material is collected at the same time as refuse, and is accommodated in trailers drawn by each of the refuse vehicles. The quantity collected has again been such that large stocks of loose cardboard and paper are always in hand and storage is proving a problem.

Sorting and baling is carried out by two men, using manually-operated presses. This method is slow and results in a build-up of materials. The build-up was such during the year that an additional building of the Nissen type had to be erected. There is no doubt that if this material is to be disposed of quickly, mechanical means of baling will have to be introduced.

There has been a further substantial decrease in the price of paper and cardboard. Despite this, prices are still reasonably good, and I am of the opinion that the collection of this material should be continued.

## **RODENT AND INSECT CONTROL:**

It is the duty of the local authority to ensure, as far as possible, that steps are taken by owners or occupiers to keep their premises free from rats and mice.

In practice, it is preferable that the local authority should undertake this work and recover costs.

In your area, treatment at private premises is free. The full cost is recovered in the case of business and agricultural premises. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries bear half the net cost of the scheme.

As in previous years, quarterly and annual returns have had to be submitted to the Ministry. A summary of the year's work is reproduced hereunder.

Number of premises inspected	...	...	540
Number of premises infested	...	...	270
Number of dwellings treated	...	...	229
Number of business premises treated	...		26
Number of Agricultural premises treated	...		2
Total number of visits	...	...	1690
Estimated number of rats and mice destroyed			1766

As in previous years, a survey of the sewers was made and 35 manholes baited. No bait was taken, an indication that the sewers are rat free.

There was a slight increase in the number of infested premises. This increase was not sufficient to cause concern.

Your Rodent Operator is also required to deal with flea or bug infested premises and with the disinfection of bedding and clothing. The number of flea and bug infestations was again low.



## FACTORIES:

The number of factories on the register is now 122.

The local authority is responsible for the administration of certain sections of the Factories Acts, and your inspectors made 246 inspections during the year.

Generally speaking, the premises are well maintained, only 6 falling short of the requirements of the Acts. Defects in 5 had been remedied at the end of the year.

The register required to be maintained by the local authority is up-to-date.

In closing this report I wish to express my thanks to His Worship the Mayor (Councillor K. L. Smith); the Chairman of the Public Health Committee (Councillor W. E. Morgan); the Town Clerk (Mr. J. Macfadyen); the Medical Officer of Health (Dr. D. J. N. McNab), and the members of the staff of my department for their co-operation and loyal service throughout the year.

FRANCIS LE V. FRIEND.

Chief Public Health Inspector  
and Cleansing Superintendent.

“Stour Cottage,”  
Barrack Road,  
Christchurch.

July, 1957.

TABLE 1.

## SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

Housing Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	737
Housing, Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	156
Drainage Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	854
Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,055
Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	...	140
Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	236
Unsound Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	63
Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	898
Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	46
Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	92
Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Ice Cream Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	249
Milk Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	55
Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	223
Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
School Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	130
Vans, Tents, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Camping Sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	112
Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Shops (Shops Act)	...	...	...	...	...	...	314
Offices	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Hawkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Defective Refuse Bins	...	...	...	...	...	...	600
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	636
Salvage and Kitchen Waste	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	...	540
Revisits	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,040
Closet Accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Pet Animals Act	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Rivers and Streams	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Unclassified	...	...	...	...	...	...	193
							8,991

**TABLE 2**

**RECORD OF NUISANCES ABATED AND WORK DONE**

The following statement shows in detail work carried out under the supervision of the Department.

**(a) DRAINAGE:**

Number of new buildings drained	...	...	...	...	166
Number of houses and premises redrained	...	...	...	...	6
Repairs or amendments to existing drains	...	...	...	...	22
Drains or gullies unstopped and cleansed	...	...	...	...	39
Length in yards stoneware drains laid	...	...	...	...	9,935
Manholes and covers provided	...	...	...	...	1,329
Intercepting traps fixed	...	...	...	...	103
New gulley traps fixed	...	...	...	...	558
Soil pipes and vent shafts fixed	...	...	...	...	180
Soil pipes and vent shafts repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Water tests applied	...	...	...	...	577
Smoke tests applied	...	...	...	...	103
Colour tests applied	...	...	...	...	2
Cesspools abolished	...	...	...	...	2
Cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	8
Septic tanks constructed	...	...	...	...	12

**(b) SANITARY CONVENIENCES AND FITTINGS:**

New W.C. accommodation provided	...	...	...	...	88
New W.C. apartments provided	...	...	...	...	73
New W.C. pedestals provided	...	...	...	...	104
W.C.'s cleansed and repaired	...	...	...	...	6
New flushing cisterns provided	...	...	...	...	97
Flushing cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...	4
Baths provided	...	...	...	...	75
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	79
Lavatory basins provided	...	...	...	...	124
Existing waste pipes trapped	...	...	...	...	1
Pail closets and/or middens abolished	...	...	...	...	2

**(c) MISCELLANEOUS:**

Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	25
Eaves gutters renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	13
Stack pipes disconnected or repaired	...	...	...	...	7
Damp walls remedied	...	...	...	...	20
Ventilation under floors provided	...	...	...	...	1
Yards repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Floors of rooms relaid	...	...	...	...	1

**TABLE 2** (continued)

Floors of rooms repaired	...	...	...	...	..	2
New windows provided	...	...	...	...	...	—
Windows repaired and/or made to open	...	...	...	...	...	26
Rooms cleansed and redecorated	...	...	...	...	...	29
Doors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ventilated food stores provided	...	...	...	...	...	5
Staircases provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	...	202
Nuisances — Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ — Smoke	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ — Animals	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ — Accumulation of manure and refuse	...	...	...	...	...	5
Workrooms cleansed and repaired	...	..	...	...	...	—
Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	4
Premises disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	8
Bakehouses cleansed	...	...	...	...	..	4
Fish frying premises cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	—

# TABLE 3

## COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

During the year 580 complaints were received as detailed below:—

Nature of Complaint							Number Received
Rats and mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	166
Food	...	...	...	...	...	...	54
Insects	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Defective dustbins or absence of	...	...	...	...	...	...	222
Smells	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Choked drains or pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Defective sinks	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective w.c.'s	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Defective roofs	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Dampness	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective guttering	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Defective chimney stacks	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cockroaches	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dilapidations	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Defective fireplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective water tanks	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
General defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective soil vent pipe	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fleas and bugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Absence and insufficient water supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective bath waste	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective floors	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulation of refuse	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective windows	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Defective steps	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective basin	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Smoke	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective staircase	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective doors	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Nuisance from animals	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Overflowing cesspool	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Unsatisfactory domestic conditions	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Insanitary conditions — toilets	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
							580

## NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED

Table 4 shows the action taken to secure the abatement of nuisances and the removal of conditions prejudicial to health.

**TABLE 4**

### NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED

Notices	Outstanding 31/12/55	Number served	Complied with	Work done by L.A. in default	Outstanding 31/12/56
Informal	11	56	55	—	12
Statutory	5	16	17	—	4
Total	16	72	72	—	16

### SUMMARY OF STATUTORY NOTICES SERVED

Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936 ...	...	6
Section 75, Public Health Act, 1936 ...	...	8
Section 11, Housing Act, 1936 ...	...	1
Section 12, Housing Act, 1936 ...	...	1

# **FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.**

## **ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1956 FOR THE BOROUGH OF CHRISTCHURCH IN THE COUNTY OF SOUTHAMPTON**

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

### **PART 1 OF THE ACT**

1. **INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	7	60	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	115	186	—	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	—	—	—	—
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

### 2. **CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND:**

				No. of cases in which defects were found		No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred			
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector		
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	
Overcrowding (S.2) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):						
(a) insufficient ... ..	1	1	—	—	—	
(b) Unsuitable or defective ... ..	4	3	—	—	—	
(c) not separate for sexes ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	—	—	—	
Total ...	6	5	—	—	—	

**PART VIII OF THE ACT**  
**OUTWORK**

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (C)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole-some premises	Notices served	Prosecu-tions
Wearing Apparel (making, etc.) ...	3	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>





